

# Public Involvement

## Public Involvement Goals

It is the goal of INDOT to develop a continuous public involvement process. INDOT's public involvement process must be accessible to the public, identifying and addressing critical environmental issues early in the project development process. Our goal is to meet the needs of the general public, MPOs, regulatory agencies, public officials and project stakeholders, while providing early and continuing input into the project development process.

INDOT works to ensure that all state and local transportation projects are designed and advanced with public involvement in mind. It is essential that our customers are given opportunities to learn about projects affecting their area, and provide us with valuable input. INDOT supports early and continuing involvement in regard to developing plans and transportation improvement programs.

## Environmental Justice

INDOT is fully committed to designing transportation projects that are environmentally just. Cost, safety and a quality design are all important aspects of any project. However, environmental justice must be the backbone of every project. After all, INDOT's projects are built and designed to better serve the public. INDOT understands that people are at the heart of every project, and that communities are impacted in one way or another by the work that we do.

## Information on the Web

INDOT's public involvement has expanded to meet the public's needs. INDOT's Web site link [http://www.in.gov/dot/public\\_i.html](http://www.in.gov/dot/public_i.html) has information about project studies and public involvement procedures. These links are updated on a daily basis and allow the public to learn about projects at their convenience.

## Reaching our Customers

There is no substitute for meeting our customers in person. With this in mind, public hearings and information meetings are set up all over Indiana so we can reach out to communities. From January to October 2002, INDOT hosted 37 public information meetings and 20 public hearings.

The exchange of information from INDOT for comments and suggestions from the public helps us do a better job.

The input INDOT receives is essential to the development of our projects. Phone calls, e-mails, letters and faxes are welcomed ways to receive public comments and concerns.

The average number of people at public hearings or meetings held by INDOT is 65.

<http://www.in.gov/dot>

